

IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-4 (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn) A method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder comprising steps of: preparing a crystalline mother material containing a hard magnetic material phase containing a rare earth metal element, a transition metal element, and at least one element selected from the group consisting of boron (B), carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O), and a soft magnetic material phase containing a transition metal element, and at least one element selected from the group consisting of boron (B), carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O), and/or, the crystalline mother material partially having amorphous parts;

amorphising said crystalline mother material, and
re-crystallizing said amorphised mother material.

6. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein treatment is conducted by repeating a continuous process composed of said amorphousing process and crystallizing process, once or more times.

7. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein said crystalline mother material having amorphous parts has a content of amorphous parts obtained by temperature property of magnetization of 95% or less.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein in said crystallizing process, anisotropy is imparted to the crystalline mother material amorphousated in said amorphousating process and the material is molded while solidifying.

8. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein in said crystallizing process, anisotropy is imparted to the crystalline mother material amorphousated in said amorphousating process and the material is molded while solidifying.

9. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein said amorphousating process is conducted under a condition in which oxygen is blocked, in any of vacuum, an inert gas, nitrogen and an organic solvent.

10. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein said crystallizing process is conducted under a condition in which oxygen is blocked, in any of vacuum, an inert gas, nitrogen and an organic solvent.

11. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein said crystallizing process has a crystallization heating treatment temperature of 950°C or less.

12. (Withdrawn) The method of producing an anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to Claim 5 wherein said crystallizing process has a crystallization heating treatment time of 1 hour or less.

Claim 13 (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder made by a process comprising the steps of:

preparing a crystalline mother material containing a hard magnetic material phase containing a rare earth metal element, a transition metal element, and at least one element selection from the group consisting of boron (B), carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O), and a soft magnetic material phase containing a transition metal element, and at least one element selected from the group consisting of boron (B), carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O), wherein the content of said rare earth metal element is from 2 to 15 atomic %, and the content of at least one element selected from the group consisting of boron (B), carbon (C), nitrogen (N) and oxygen (O) is from 1 to 25 atomic %, and wherein the crystalline mother material having a content of amorphous parts of magnetization of 95% or less;

amorphising said crystalline mother material,

crystallizing said crystalline mother material amorphised in said amorphising process,

repeating a continuous process composed of said amorphising process and crystallizing process, one or more times.

15. (Previously Presented) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to the process of claim 14, said crystallizing process further comprising the steps of placing said crystalline mother material in magnetic field, and compressing said crystalline mother material placed in magnetic field in said placing process.

16. (Previously Presented) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to the process of claim 14, wherein said amorphising process is conducted under a condition in which oxygen is blocked, in any of vacuum, an inert gas, nitrogen and an organic solvent.

17. (Previously Presented) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to the process of claim 14, wherein said crystallizing process is conducted under a condition in which oxygen is blocked, in any of vacuum, an inert gas, nitrogen and an organic solvent.

18. (Previously Presented) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to the process of claim 14, wherein said crystallizing process has a crystallization heating treatment temperature of 950°C or less.

19. (Previously Presented) An anisotropic exchange spring magnet powder according to the process of claim 14, wherein said crystallizing process has a crystallization heating treatment time of 1 hour or less.